

CENTER TOWNSHIP

MERCER COUNTY, OHIO

AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2021 & 2020**

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE
KEITH FABER



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Board of Trustees
Center Township
9717 Stose Road
Celina, Ohio 45822

We have reviewed the *Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures* of Center Township, Mercer County, prepared by Julian & Grube, Inc., for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Based upon this review, we have accepted this report in lieu of the audit required by Section 117.11, Revised Code.

Our review was made in reference to the applicable sections of legislative criteria, as reflected by the Ohio Constitution, and the Revised Code, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Auditor of State, regulations and grant requirements. Center Township is responsible for compliance with these laws and regulations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith Faber".

Keith Faber
Auditor of State
Columbus, Ohio

September 02, 2022

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Center Township
Mercer County
9717 Stose Road
Celina, Ohio 45822

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the Center Township's (the Township) receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 and certain compliance requirements related to those transactions and balances, included in the information provided to us by the management of the Township. The Township is responsible for the receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in the cash basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances included in the information provided to us by the Township.

The Board of Trustees and the management of the Township have agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of providing assistance in the evaluation of the Township's receipts, disbursements and balances recorded in their cash-basis accounting records for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, and certain compliance requirements related to these transactions and balances. Additionally, the Auditor of State has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet their purposes. No other party acknowledged the appropriateness of the procedures. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of the report and may not meet the needs of all users of the report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the parties specified in the report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

For the purposes of performing these procedures, this report only describes exceptions exceeding \$10.

The procedures and the associated findings are as follows:

Cash and Investments

1. We recalculated the December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020 bank reconciliations. We found no exceptions.
2. We agreed the January 1, 2020 beginning fund balances for each opinion unit recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2019 balances in the prior year audited statements. We found no exceptions. We also agreed the January 1, 2021 beginning fund balances for each fund recorded in the Cash Summary by Fund Report to the December 31, 2020 balances in the Cash Summary by Fund Report. We found no exceptions.
3. We agreed the 2021 and 2020 Bank Reconciliation UAN Balances and Adjusted Bank Balances as of December 31, 2021 and 2020 to the total fund cash balances reported in the Cash Summary by Fund Reports and the financial statements filed by the Township in the Hinkle System. The amounts agreed.
4. We confirmed one December 31, 2021 bank account balance for the Township through the Ohio Pooled Collateral System and observed the remaining year-end bank account balance on the financial institution's website. The balances agreed. We also agreed the confirmed balances to the amounts appearing in the December 31, 2021 bank reconciliation without exception.

5. We selected five reconciling debits (such as outstanding checks) from the December 31, 2021 bank reconciliation:
 - a. We traced each debit to the subsequent January bank statement. We found no exceptions.
 - b. We traced the amounts and dates to the check register, and determined the debits were dated prior to December 31. We found no exceptions.
6. We inspected investments held at December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020 to determine that they:
 - a. Were of a type authorized by Ohio Rev. Code § 135.13, 135.14 or 135.144. We found no exceptions
 - b. Mature within the prescribed time limits noted in Ohio Rev. Code § 135.13 or 135.14. We found no exceptions.

Property Taxes and Intergovernmental Receipts

1. We selected a total of five receipts from the *Statement of Semiannual Apportionment of Taxes*, State Distribution Transaction Lists (DTL), and the County Auditor Vendor Report for 2021 and a total of five from 2020:
 - a. We compared the amount from the above named reports to the amount recorded in the Receipt Export Reports. The amounts agreed.
 - b. We inspected the Receipt Export Reports to determine these receipts were allocated to the proper funds as required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.05-.06 and 5705.10. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We inspected the Receipt Export Reports to determine whether the receipt was recorded in the proper year. The receipt was recorded in the proper year. We found no exceptions.
2. We inspected the Receipt Export Reports to determine whether it included two real estate tax receipts for 2021 and 2020. The Receipt Export Reports included the proper number of tax receipts for each year. We found no exceptions.

Debt

1. The prior audit documentation disclosed no debt outstanding as of December 31, 2019.
2. We inquired of management, and inspected the Receipt Export Reports and Payment Export Reports for evidence of debt issued during 2021 or 2020 or debt payment activity during 2021 or 2020. There were no new debt issuances, nor any debt payment activity during 2021 or 2020.

Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected one payroll check for five employees from 2021 and one payroll check for five employees from 2020 from the Wage Detail Reports and:
 - a. We compared the hours and pay rate, or salary recorded in the Wage Detail Reports to supporting documentation (timecard, legislatively or statutorily-approved rate or salary).
 - i. We inspected the employees' personnel files for the Retirement system, Federal, & State income tax withholding authorization.
 - ii. We agreed these items to the information used to compute gross and net pay related to this check.

We found one instance where the hourly pay rate for one employee in 2021 did not agree to the minutes due to a typo. The Township ratified this in 2022. The Township was unable to provide withholding authorization forms for the State and Retirement system, however amounts were being withheld.
 - b. We inspected the fund and account codes to which the check was posted to determine the posting was allowable based on the employees' duties as documented in the employees' personnel files and/or minute record or as required by statute. We found no exceptions.
 - c. We confirmed the payment was posted to the proper year. We found no exceptions.

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2. We inspected the last remittance of tax and retirement withholdings for the year ended December 31, 2021 to confirm remittances were timely paid, and if the amounts paid agreed to the amounts withheld, plus the employer's share where applicable, during the final withholding period of 2021. We observed the following:

Withholding (plus employer share, where applicable)	Date Due	Date Paid	Amount Due	Amount Paid
Federal income taxes & Medicare	January 18, 2022	December 31, 2021	\$681	\$681
State income taxes	January 31, 2022	December 31, 2021	\$154	\$154
Celina City School District income taxes	January 31, 2022	December 31, 2021	\$171	\$171
OPERS retirement	January 31, 2022	December 31, 2021	\$897	\$897

We found no exceptions.

3. For the pay periods ended February 28, 2021 and September 30, 2020, we
 - a. Recomputed the allocation of the Fiscal Officer's and Boards' salary amounts to the General and Gasoline Tax Fund per the Wage Detail Reports.
 - b. Traced the Fiscal Officer's and Boards' pay for time or services performed to supporting certifications the Revised Code requires.

We found no exceptions.

4. We compared total gross pay for the fiscal officer and each board member for 2021 and 2020 to the compensation permitted by Ohio Revised Code §§ 507.09 and 505.24, respectively. We found the following underpayments: 2021: Fiscal Officer: \$4,357, one Trustee: \$3,068, and two Trustees: each by \$2,462; 2020: Fiscal Officer: \$3,852, one Trustee: \$2,862, and two Trustees: each by \$2,462.
5. We inquired of management and inspected the Payment Export Reports for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 to determine if township employees and/or trustees were reimbursed for out-of-pocket insurance premiums. No such reimbursements occurred.

Non-Payroll Cash Disbursements

1. We selected 10 disbursements from the Payment Export Reports for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 10 from the year ended 2020 and determined whether:
 - a. The disbursements were for a proper public purpose. We found one exception in 2021, a payment for penalties and interest paid on the late filing of the Township's first quarter 2020 941, in the amount of \$45.
 - b. The check number, date, payee name and amount recorded on the returned, canceled check agreed to the check number, date, payee name and amount recorded in the Payment Export Reports and to the names and amounts on the supporting invoices. In 2020, we found one instance where the Township paid a statement balance, in which a detailed invoice was not provided, in the amount of \$614, and one instance where no invoice was provided in the amount of \$22.
 - c. The payment was posted to a fund consistent with the restricted purpose for which the fund's cash can be used. We found no exceptions.
 - d. The fiscal officer certified disbursements requiring certification or issued a *Then and Now Certificate*, as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D). We were unable to determine if the certification date was before the vendor invoice date in two instances in 2020. Further in 2020, we noted one instance where the certification date was after the dated vendor invoice, and there was also no evidence that a *Then and Now Certificate* was issued. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(D) requires certifying at the time of a commitment, which should be on or before the invoice date, unless a *Then and Now Certificate* is used. Because we did not inspect all disbursements requiring certification, our report provides no assurance whether or not additional similar errors occurred.

Compliance – Budgetary

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.41(B) prohibits expenditures (disbursements plus certified commitments) from exceeding appropriations. We compared total expenditures to total approved appropriations (Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.38 and 5705.40) plus any carryover appropriations for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 for the General, Park Levy, and Special Assessment – St. Lights fund as recorded in the Appropriation Status Reports. Expenditures did not exceed appropriations.
2. We inspected the interfund transfers from 2021 and 2020 Revenue Status Reports and Appropriation Status Reports for compliance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 5705.14 - .16. We found no evidence of transfers these Sections prohibit, or for which Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.16 would require approval by the Tax Commissioner.
3. We inspected the Cash Summary by Fund Reports for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 for negative cash fund balances. Ohio Rev. Code § 5705.10 (I) provides that money paid into a fund must be used for the purposes for which such fund is established. As a result, a negative fund cash balance indicates that money from one fund was used to cover the expenses of another. No funds had a negative cash fund balances.

Sunshine Law Compliance

1. We obtained and inspected the Township's Public Records Policy to determine the policy was in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code §§ 149.43(E)(2) and 149.43(B)(7)(c) and did not limit the number of responses that may be made to a particular person, limit the number of responses during a specified period of time, or establish a fixed period of time before it will respond unless that period is less than eight hours. We found no exceptions.
2. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any public records requests (received, completed, denied or redacted) during the engagement period.
3. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a records retention schedule during the engagement period and therefore could not make it readily available to the public as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(B)(2).
4. We inspected written evidence that the Public Records Policy was provided to the records custodian/manager as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
5. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have a policy manual during the engagement period therefore the public records policy could not be included as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2).
6. We observed that the Township's poster describing their Public Records Policy was displayed conspicuously in all branches of the Township as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(2). We found no exceptions.
7. We inquired with Township management and determined that the Township did not have any applications for record disposal submitted to the Records Commission during the engagement period.
8. We inspected individual proof of attendance and determined whether each elected official in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 149.43(E)(1) (or his/her designee) successfully attended a certified three-hour Public Records Training for each term of office as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 109.43(B). We found of the three elected officials that this requirement would have been applicable for during the engagement period, none were able to provide proof of attendance.
9. We inspected the public notices for the public meetings held during the engagement period and determined the Township notified the general public and news media of when and where meetings during the engagement period were to be held as required by Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(F). We found no exceptions.

10. We inspected the minutes of public meetings during the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(C) and determined whether they were:
 - a. Prepared – a file is created following the date of the meeting
 - b. Filed – placed with similar documents in an organized manner
 - c. Maintained - retained, at a minimum, for the engagement period
 - d. Open to public inspection – available for public viewing or request.

We found no exceptions.

11. We inspected the minutes from the engagement period in accordance with Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G) and determined the following:
 - a. Executive sessions were only held at regular or special meetings.
 - b. The purpose for the meetings and going into an executive session (when applicable) correlated with one of the matters listed in Ohio Rev. Code § 121.22(G).
 - c. Formal governing board actions were adopted in open meetings.

We found no exceptions.

Contract Compliance

1. We inspected the Minutes and Payment Export Reports and identified the Township had expenditures subject to competitive bidding during 2021. There were none in 2020. We found no exceptions.
2. We selected one contract over \$45,000 for 2021 and
 - a. We inspected the contract and other bids for the contracted expenditure and determined:
 - i. The Township met the joint purchasing contract exemption accepted the lowest bid and met the requirements of Ohio Rev. Code §5575.01 and Ohio Rev. Code §9.48.
 - ii. No bid splitting occurred
 - iii. No deliberate attempts to evade bid limitations occurred, such as successive contracts just under the bid amount, occurred.
 - iv. No apparent interest in the contract by a public official occurred.

We found no exceptions.

Other Compliance

1. Ohio Rev. Code § 117.38 requires townships to file their financial information in the HINKLE system within 60 days after the close of the fiscal year. This statute also permits the Auditor of State to extend the deadline for filing a financial report and establish terms and conditions for any such extension. Auditor of State established policies regarding the filing of complete financial statements, as defined in AOS Bulletin 2015-007 in the Hinkle System. We confirmed the Township filed their complete financial statements, as defined by AOS Bulletin 2015-007 and Auditor of State established policy, within the allotted timeframe for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 in the Hinkle system. We found no exceptions.
2. We inquired of the fiscal officer and inspected the Fiscal Integrity Act Portal (<http://www.ohioauditor.gov/fiscalintegrity/default.html>) to determine whether the fiscal officer obtained the training required by Ohio Rev. Code §§ 507.12 and 733.81. Fiscal Officer obtained 0 of the required 12 hours of training.

We were engaged by the Township to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with the attestation standards established by the AICPA and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to, and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the Township's receipts, disbursements, balances and compliance with certain laws and regulations. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

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We are required to be independent of the Township and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the ethical requirements established by the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards* related to our agreed upon procedures engagement.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julian & Grube, Inc.".

Julian & Grube, Inc.
August 17, 2022

OHIO AUDITOR OF STATE KEITH FABER



CENTER TOWNSHIP

MERCER COUNTY

AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 9/15/2022

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at
www.ohioauditor.gov